

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-37 are currently pending in the present patent application.

In an Office Action mailed June 2, 2006, the Examiner maintained her rejections of all the pending claims in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,469,361 to Moyne (Moyne). With regard to the undersigned's arguments set forth in the amendment that accompanied the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in the present application, the Examiner in Moyne she views the routines as corresponding to the "event codes" and the "stimulus and routine calls" as corresponding to the electrical signals recited in the pending claims. See page 14, lines 1-2 of the Office Action. The Examiner further stated that "features upon which applicant relies (i.e., signals which are from a temperature sensor, accelerometer, or a signal to drive an LED lamp) are not recited in the rejected claims(s)." *Id.* at lines 3-5.

The Moyne patent neither discloses nor suggests a hardware subsystem as recited in amended claim 1 that associates an event code with a physical electrical signal. As discussed in paragraph 38 of the present application, for example, sensing elements may include switches, temperature sensors, pressure sensors, vibration sensors, position or attitude sensors, motion sensors, accelerometers, microphones or hydrophones, and feedback from various types of actuators. Control elements may include lights (e.g., lamps and/or LED's), digital or analog meters, thermostats, hydraulic controls, motor controls, engine controls, transducers, loudspeakers, alarm indicators, stepping motors, and various types of actuators. See paragraph 38. These are examples of control and sensing operations, and the signals for all these operations have an associated physical parameter or action and thus may be termed "physical electrical signals" in the context of the present application.

Amended claim 1 now recites, in part, a hardware subsystem that includes at least one component adapted to carry a physical electrical signal associated with one from the group of a sensing operation and a control operation. The recited physical electrical signal may be, for example, signals from switches, temperature sensors, pressure sensors, vibration sensors, position or attitude sensors, motion sensors, accelerometers, microphones or hydrophones, feedback from various types of actuators, or signals to lights, digital or analog meters, thermostats, hydraulic controls, motor controls, engine controls, transducers, loudspeakers, alarm indicators, stepping

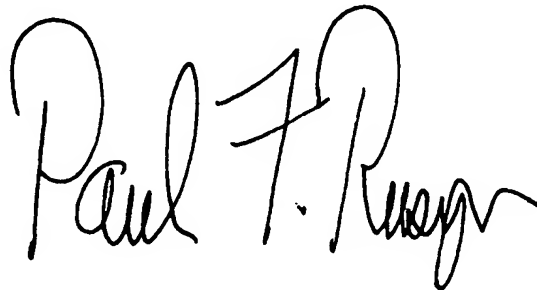
motors, and various types of actuators. Moyne neither discloses nor suggests such physical electrical signals. The stimulus and routine calls of Moyne are not physical electrical signals as this term is used herein. For these reasons, the combination of elements recited in amended claim 1 is allowable. Dependent claims 2-11 are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1 and due to the additional limitations added by each of these claims.

The remaining independent claims 12, 23, and 29 similarly recited "physical electrical signals" are thus the combinations of elements recited in these claims are allowable for reasons similar those set forth above for claim 1. All dependent claims are allowable for at least the same reasons as the associated independent claim and due to the additional limitations added by each of these dependent claims.

The present patent application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner consider any of the claims not allowable after consideration of the present amendment, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at (425) 455-5575 to arrange for a telephone interview to discuss the outstanding issues. If any need for any fee in addition to that paid with this response is found, for any reason or at any point during the prosecution of this application, kindly consider this a petition therefore and charge any necessary fees to Deposit Account 07-1897.

Respectfully submitted,

GRAYBEAL JACKSON HALEY LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul F. Rusyn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "R".

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